

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the thorough examination of the present application as evidenced by the Office Action of December 1, 2006 (hereinafter "Office Action") and the final Office Action of May 25, 2007 (hereinafter "Final Action"). However, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections of the pending claims for at least the reasons discussed below. For the sake of brevity, Applicants' discussion will focus on the new grounds of rejection presented in the Final Action; however the arguments from Applicants' Amendment of February 27, 2007, are incorporated by reference herein.

Applicants' Claim for Priority

The Final Action acknowledges Applicants' claim for foreign priority based on European Applications 02445177.5 (filed December 16, 2002) and 03011580.2 (filed May 22, 2003), and U.S. Provisional Patent Application 60/474,025 (filed May 29, 2003), but contends that the Applicants have not filed certified copies of these applications as required by 35 USC §119(b). *See* Final Action, Page 2. However, as the present application is a national phase application based on International Application No. PCT/EP03/12879, Applicants respectfully submit that copies of these applications should have been communicated to the USPTO by the International Bureau, as evidenced by the attached Form IB/304. However, if for some reason this is not the case, Applicants would be happy to provide certified copies of these applications upon the Examiner's request.

Independent Claim 1 Is Patentable Over Freeland et al.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by PCT Published International Application Publication No. WO 01/57851 to Freeland et al. (hereinafter "Freeland"). Claim 1 recites:

1. An apparatus, comprising:
a display configured to display various readable data; and
a control unit configured to extract at least a part of the displayed data and configured to send the extracted part of the displayed data to a speech generating device that is configured to generate speech from the extracted part of the displayed data,

wherein the speech generating device is attachable to the apparatus, and **wherein the control unit is configured to send the extracted part of the displayed data to the speech generating device at a fixed and/or controllable rate based on user interaction with the display comprising scrolling and/or voice control input received from a user.** (*Emphasis added*).

Accordingly, Claim 1 recites an apparatus including a control unit that extracts a part of readable data shown on a display and sends the extracted part of the readable data to an attachable speech generating device at a rate based on user interaction with the display, such as scrolling and/or voice control.

The Final Action argues that Freeland discloses the recitations of Claim 1 because "the conversion can be performed at preparation time and/or for each user's request. That is, the data can be converted at a controllable rate." Final Action, Page 3. More particularly, the cited portion of Freeland discloses that "conversion from text to speech can be performed at preparation time and/or on-demand for each user's request." Freeland, Page 49, lines 22-24. However, Applicants respectfully submit that performing a conversion *at a preparation time* and/or *on-demand* does not disclose or suggest performing the conversion at a *rate*. Rather, as is well-known to those skilled in the art, "rate" refers to a measurement per unit of time. As such, performing the conversion from text to speech at the particular *times* described in Freeland does not disclose or suggest performing the conversion at a fixed and/or controllable *rate*. Nor do the cited portions of Freeland disclose or suggest performing the conversion from text to speech at *a rate that is based on user interaction with the display*, such as scrolling and/or voice control. Thus, the cited portions of Freeland fail to disclose or suggest sending displayed data to a speech generating device "at a fixed and/or controllable rate", as recited by Claim 1.

Accordingly, as Freeland fails to disclose or suggest all of the recitations of Claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 1 is patentable over Freeland for at least the above reasons. Also, dependent Claims 2-7 and 9-19 are patentable at least per the patentability of Claim 1 from which they depend.

Independent Claims 20 and 39 Are Patentable Over Freeland et al.

Independent Claims 20 and 39 also stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Freeland. Claim 39, for example, recites:

39. **A wireless communication device, comprising:**
a display configured to display various readable data;
a speaker;
a speech generating device including a conversion circuit therein configured to convert received data to a speech signal and provide the speech signal to the speaker; and
a control unit configured to extract at least a part of the displayed data and send the extracted part of the displayed data to the speech generating device. (*Emphasis added*).

Accordingly, Claim 39 recites *a wireless communication device*, such as a mobile phone, including a control unit that extracts a part of readable data shown on a display and sends the extracted part of the readable data to a speech generating device, which converts the readable data into a speech signal and provides the speech signal to a speaker. *See also* Specification, Page 4, line 27 to Page 5, line 3.

The Final Action asserts that Freeland discloses such a wireless communication device including a display, a speaker, a speech generating device, and a control unit at Col. 19, lines 22-26. *See* Final Action, page 8. However, the cited portion of Freeland provides:

Alternatively the sender of the message or greeting may use **telephone terminal 26 to deliver their message to the server means 10 which has a speech recognition engine** for converting the audio message into a text message which is then converted back into an audio message in the voice of a famous character with or without background effects and with or without prosody.

Freeland, Page 19, lines 22-26 (*emphasis added*). As such, the cited portion of Freeland states that *the remote server 10* includes a speech recognition engine, not the telephone terminal 26. However, Applicants respectfully submit that the remote server 10 of Freeland is not *a wireless communication device*. In other words, nowhere do the cited portions of Freeland disclose or suggest a wireless communication device including "a speech generating device", as recited by Claim 39.

Accordingly, Freeland fails to disclose or suggest all of the recitations of Claim 39. Thus, Applicants submit that Claim 39 is patentable over Freeland for at least the above reasons. Claim 20 similarly recites an apparatus including "a display", "a control unit", and "a speech generating device", and as such, is patentable for at least similar reasons. Applicants note that the Final Action further argues that the system of Freeland "is an apparatus that is intended to be used together as a unified item" (Final Action, Page 3); however, as noted in Applicant's Amendment of December 1, 2006, Freeland discloses a *system* for converting a typed message into an audio message at a remote server 10 and transmitting the audio message over a wide area communications network to a remote device (such as a computer 6 or mobile telephone 20), and as such, does not disclose or suggest the aforementioned components in one "*apparatus*", as recited by Claim 20. *See* Freeland, Page 19, lines 4-22 and Fig. 1. Also, dependent Claims 21-35 and 37 are patentable at least per the patentability of Claim 20 from which they depend.

Many of the Dependent Claims Are Separately Patentable

As discussed above, Applicants note that the dependent claims are patentable at least per the patentability of independent Claims 1, 8, and 20 from which they depend. Moreover, Applicants submit that various dependent claims are separately patentable.

For example, Claims 2, 3, and 5 recite sending the extracted part of the displayed data to the speech generating device "a line or a word at a time". The Final Action argues that the combination of Freeland with U.S. Patent No. 6, 509, 907 to Kuwabara (hereinafter "Kuwabara") discloses these recitations. *See* Final Action, Pages 9-11. In particular, the Final Action asserts that it would have been obvious to modify Freeland's apparatus to display a line or a word at a time as taught by Kuwabara "to allow the user to read along text message readily without having to make cumbersome control manipulations and enables the scroll display to be readably readable because the user is allowed to change the scroll display speed freely while simultaneously reading the character message on the display". Final Action, pages 9-10.

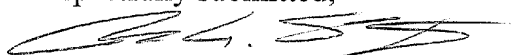
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Filed: April 10, 2006
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However, Applicants respectfully submit that one of skill in the art would not be motivated to combine the teachings of Kuwabara with those of Freeland to provide the recitations of Claims 2, 3 and 5. More particularly, as noted in the Final Action, Kuwabara describes scrolling text messages at variable speeds *to enhance readability for a user*. See Kuwabara, Abstract. Accordingly, nowhere does Kuwabara disclose or suggest sending text *to a speech generating device* based on the scrolling at variable speeds. In other words, Applicants respectfully submit that both Kuwabara and the stated motivation in the Final Action relate to advantages provided by variable-speed scrolling for reading by human user, which would not be obvious to use in transmitting text to a speech generating device. Accordingly, Applicants submit that it would not be obvious to combine the teachings of Kuwabara with those of Freeland, and that Claims 2, 3, and 5 are separately patentable for at least the above reasons.

Conclusion

Applicants again appreciate the thorough examination of the present application. However, in light of the discussion presented above, Applicants submit that all of the pending claims are patentable over the cited references, and that the present application is therefore in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' undersigned representative at (919) 854-1400.

Respectfully submitted,

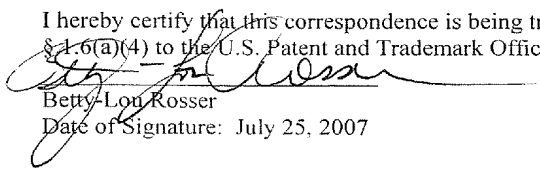


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Betty-Lou Rosser
Date of Signature: July 25, 2007

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2004-01-19

INVENT COOPERATION TREATY

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Date of mailing (day/month/year) 31 December 2003 (31.12.03)	
Applicant's or agent's file reference P13331/MA	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
International application No. PCT/EP03/12879	International filing date (day/month/year) 14 November 2003 (14.11.03)
International publication date (day/month/year) Not yet published	Priority date (day/month/year) 16 December 2002 (16.12.02)
Applicant SONY ERICSSON MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS AB et al	

1. The applicant is hereby notified of the date of receipt (except where the letters "NR" appear in the right-hand column) by the International Bureau of the priority document(s) relating to the earlier application(s) indicated below. Unless otherwise indicated by an asterisk appearing next to a date of receipt, or by the letters "NR", in the right-hand column, the priority document concerned was submitted or transmitted to the International Bureau in compliance with Rule 17.1(a) or (b).
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<u>Priority date</u>	<u>Priority application No.</u>	<u>Country or regional Office or PCT receiving Office</u>	<u>Date of receipt of priority document</u>
16 Dec 2002 (16.12.02)	02445177.5	EP	15 Dec 2003 (15.12.03)
22 May 2003 (22.05.03)	03011580.2	EP	15 Dec 2003 (15.12.03)
29 May 2003 (29.05.03)	60/474,025	US	24 Dec 2003 (24.12.03)

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